Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

processing information to identify network faults that cause or are caused by other network faults and that contribute to a failure of a network element in which at least some of the network faults are occurring,

based on the results of the information processing, generating traps with respect to fewer than all of the network faults that are occurring, and

sending the traps to a network management station.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the information is processed using a directed acyclic graph.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 in which nodes of the graph represent entities of the network element.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which the result of the processing comprises information about the causal relationships among at least some of the network faults.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which traps are generated with respect to network faults that have a causal relationship to other network faults and traps are not generated with respect to at least some of the other network faults.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 also including

requesting fault information from an entity that is part of the network element and which has not triggered a fault notice to determine if there is a network fault associated with the network element.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 also including

reporting the traps to an operator of the network management station.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) Apparatus comprising

a network element having

network entities that are subject to network faults, wherein the network faults of at least some of the network entities cause or are caused by network faults of at least some others of the network entities, and

a medium bearing information capable of configuring a machine in the network element to identify network faults that cause or are caused by other network faults, generate traps with respect to fewer than all of the network faults that are occurring at the network entities, and send the traps to a network management station.

11. (Currently amended) A medium bearing information capable of configuring a machine to determine whether network faults cause or are caused by other network faults occurring in entities of a network element, and based on the results of the determination, generate traps with respect to fewer than all of the network faults that are occurring.

12. (Original) The medium of claim 11 in which the information comprises a directed acyclic graph of nodes.

13. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

using a directed acyclic graph that models causal relationships between network fault objects to process information about network faults that contribute to a failure of a network element in which at least some of the network faults are occurring,

based on the results of the information processing, generating traps with respect to root cause network faults and not with respect to at least some cascading network faults triggered by root cause network faults, and

sending the traps to a network management station.

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein one network fault directly causes another network fault or is directly caused by another network fault.